UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/678,800	10/03/2003	Todd P. Guay	oracle01.026	3882

7590   09/10/2010
Gordon E. Nelson
57 Central St.
P.O. Box 782
Rowley, MA 01969

EXAMINER
AHLUWALIA, NAVNEET K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2166	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
09/10/2010	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/678,800	GUAY ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	NAVNEET K. AHLUWALIA	2166

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --*

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>16 June 2010</u>.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) <u>1-8,25-32 and 49-56</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) <u>1-8,25-32 and 49-56</u> is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail. Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Pre-Appeal Conference Decision

1.   In accordance with the Notice Decision from Pre-Appeal Brief Review dated 06/16/2010, prosecution on the instant application is reopened.

Response to Pre-Appeal Brief

2.   Applicant's remarks are arguments within the Pre-Appeal Brief of 04/20/2010, pages 1 – 6, with respect to the rejection of claims 1 – 8, 25 – 32, and 49 – 56, have been fully considered and are persuasive, therefore, Examiner has reopen prosecution of the instant Application.

3.   Claims 1 – 8, 25 – 32, and 49 – 56are pending in this Office Action. After a further search and a thorough examination of the present application, claims 1 – 8, 25 – 32, and 49 – 56 remain rejected.

4.   Applicant's arguments filed with respect to claims 1 – 8, 25 – 32, and 49 – 56 have been fully considered but they are moot in view of new rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6.   Claims 1 – 8, 25 – 32, and 49 – 56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being

anticipated by Ketan Dalal ('Dalal' herein after) (5,537,589).

With respect to claim 1,

        Dalal discloses a method of aggregating a plurality of entries in a table in a

database management system into an aggregated entry in the table or another table in

the database management system, the method comprising the steps of: making the

aggregated entry, the aggregated entry representing the plurality of entries and

including a first field whose value is a metric value computed from a set of individual

values of a field in the plurality of entries and a second field whose value is a

representation of the individual values, the metric value having the property that the

individual values from which the metric value was computed cannot derived from the

metric value and the representation of the individual values having the property that the

individual values are derivable therefrom (figures 1, 4, 5a-c, 10, 11, column 4 lines 1 –

20, column 8 lines 63 – 67, column 9 lines 11 – 23, Dalal).

With respect to claim 2,

        Dalal discloses the method set forth in claim 1 further comprising the step of:

deleting the plurality of entries represented by the aggregated entry (figures 1, 2, 10, 11,

column 9 lines 11 – 23, Dalal).

With respect to claim 3,

Dalal discloses the method set forth in claim 1 wherein: the second field's value

has a size which varies with the number of the individual values (figures 1, 4, 5a-c, 10,

11, column 4 lines 1 – 20, column 8 lines 63 – 67, column 9 lines 11 – 23, Dalal).

With respect to claim 4,

Dalal discloses the method set forth in claim 3 wherein: The second field's value

is a character string wherein the character string comprising a sequence of for each

individual member of the set and separator characters separating each sequences of

characters (figures 4, 6, 11, column 4 lines 1 – 20, Dalal).

With respect to claim 5,

Dalal discloses the method set forth in claim 1 wherein: the second field's value

has a size which is constant regardless of the number of the individual members in the

set (figures 2, 10, 12, Dalal).

With respect to claim 6,

Dalal discloses the method set forth in claim 5 wherein: the second field's value

comprises a string of elements, the string of elements having an element corresponding

to each potential value of the individual values that belong to the set, the presence of a

particular individual value in the set being indicated by a first value of the corresponding

element and the absence of the particular individual value being indicated by a second

value of the corresponding element (figures 1, 4, 5a-c, 10, 11, column 4 lines 1 – 20,

column 8 lines 63 – 67, column 9 lines 11 – 23, Dalal).

With respect to claim 7,

Dalal discloses the method set forth in claim 1 wherein: the individual values are time values (figures 1, 4, 5a-c, 10, 11, column 4 lines 1 – 20, column 8 lines 63 – 67, column 9 lines 11 – 23, Dalal).

With respect to claim 8,

Dalal discloses the method set forth in claim 1 wherein: the individual values are location values (figures 1, column 8 lines 63 – 67, Dalal).

With respect to claim 49,

Dalal discloses the method of aggregating a plurality of entries set forth in claim 1 wherein: the entries belonging to the plurality indicate occurrences of an event in the database management system, the occurrences being recorded by a management service in the database management system (figures 1, 4, 5a-c, 10, 11, column 4 lines 1 – 20, column 8 lines 63 – 67, column 9 lines 11 – 23, Dalal).

With respect to claim 50,

Dalal discloses the method of aggregating a plurality of entries set forth in claim 49 further comprising the step of: deleting the plurality of entries represented by the

aggregated entry (figures 1, 4, 5a-c, 10, 11, column 4 lines 1 – 20, column 8 lines 63 –

67, column 9 lines 11 – 23, Dalal).

With respect to claim 51,

    Dalal discloses the method of aggregating a plurality of entries set forth in claim

50 wherein: the individual values indicate times of occurrence of the event of interest

(figures 1, 4, 5a-c, 10, 11, column 4 lines 1 – 20, column 8 lines 63 – 67, column 9 lines

11 – 23, Dalal).

With respect to claim 52,

    Dalal discloses the method of aggregating a plurality of entries set forth in claim

50 wherein: the individual values indicate places of occurrence of the event of interest

(figures 1, 4, 5a-c, 10, 11, column 4 lines 1 – 20, column 8 lines 63 – 67, column 9 lines

11 – 23, Dalal).

With respect to claim 25,

    Dalal discloses a data storage device, characterized in that: the data storage

device contains code which when executed by a processor performs aggregation of a

plurality of entries in a table in a database management system into an aggregated

entry in the table or another table in the database management system, the method

comprising the steps of: making the aggregated entry, the aggregated entry

representing the plurality of entries and including a first field whose value is a metric

value computed from a set of individual values of a field in the plurality of entries and a

second field whose value is a representation of the individual values the metric value

having the property that the individual values from which the metric value was computed

cannot derived from the metric value and the representation of the individual values

having the property that the individual values are derivable therefrom (figures 1, 4, 5a-c,

10, 11, column 4 lines 1 – 20, column 8 lines 63 – 67, column 9 lines 11 – 23, Dalal).

With respect to claim 26,

    Dalal discloses the data storage device set forth in claim 25 further characterized

in that: the method further comprises the step of deleting the plurality of entries

represented by the aggregated entry (figures 1, 4, 5a-c, 10, 11, column 4 lines 1 – 20,

column 8 lines 63 – 67, column 9 lines 11 – 23, Dalal).

With respect to claim 27,

    Dalal discloses the data storage device set forth in claim 25 further characterized

in that: the second field's value has a size which varies with the number of the individual

values (figures 1, 4, 5a-c, 10, 11, column 4 lines 1 – 20, column 8 lines 63 – 67, column

9 lines 11 – 23, Dalal).

With respect to claim 28,

    Dalal discloses the data storage device set forth in claim 27 further characterized

in that: The second field's value a character string wherein each member is represented

by a sequence of characters and the sequences of characters are separated by a

separator character (figures 1, 4, 5a-c, 10, 11, column 4 lines 1 – 20, column 8 lines 63

– 67, column 9 lines 11 – 23, Dalal).

With respect to claim 29,

       Dalal discloses the data storage device set forth in claim 25 further characterized

in that: the second field's value has a size which is constant regardless of the number of

individual values (figures 1, 4, 5a-c, 10, 11, column 4 lines 1 – 20, column 8 lines 63 –

67, column 9 lines 11 – 23, Dalal).

With respect to claim 30,

       Dalal discloses the data storage device set forth in claim 29 further characterized

in that: the second field's value comprises a string of elements, there having an element

corresponding to each potential value of the individual values that belong to the set, the

presence of a particular member in the set being indicated by a first value of the

corresponding element and the absence of the particular member being indicated by a

second value of the corresponding element (figures 1, 4, 5a-c, 10, 11, column 4 lines 1

– 20, column 8 lines 63 – 67, column 9 lines 11 – 23, Dalal).

With respect to claim 31,

       Dalal discloses the data storage device set forth in claim 25 further characterized

in that: the individual values are time values (figures 1, 4, 5a-c, 10, 11, column 4 lines 1

– 20, column 8 lines 63 – 67, column 9 lines 11 – 23, Dalal).

With respect to claim 32,

Dalal discloses the data storage device set forth in claim 25 further characterized in that: the individual values are location values (figures 1, 4, 5a-c, 10, 11, column 4 lines 1 – 20, column 8 lines 63 – 67, column 9 lines 11 – 23, Dalal).

With respect to claim 53,

Dalal discloses the data storage device set forth in claim 25 wherein: the entries belonging to the plurality indicate occurrences of an event in the database management system, the occurrences being recorded by a management service in the database management system (figures 1, 4, 5a-c, 10, 11, column 4 lines 1 – 20, column 8 lines 63 – 67, column 9 lines 11 – 23, Dalal).

With respect to claim 54,

Dalal discloses the data storage device set forth in claim 53 wherein the code further comprises: instructions for deleting the plurality of entries represented by the aggregated entry (figures 1, 4, 5a-c, 10, 11, column 4 lines 1 – 20, column 8 lines 63 – 67, column 9 lines 11 – 23, Dalal).

With respect to claim 55,

Dalal discloses the data storage device set forth in claim 54 wherein: the
individual values indicate times of occurrence Of the event of interest (figures 1, 4, 5a-c,
10, 11, column 4 lines 1 – 20, column 8 lines 63 – 67, column 9 lines 11 – 23, Dalal).

With respect to claim 56,

Dalal discloses the data storage device set forth in claim 54 wherein: the
individual values indicate places of occurrence of the event of interest (figures 1, 4, 5a-
c, 10, 11, column 4 lines 1 – 20, column 8 lines 63 – 67, column 9 lines 11 – 23, Dalal).

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Navneet K. Ahluwalia whose telephone number is 571-272-5636.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alam T. Hosain can be reached on 571-272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Navneet K. Ahluwalia/
Examiner, Art Unit 2166

Dated: 08/28/2010

/Hosain T Alam/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2166